THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways only. Development and Maintenance of all roads other than National Highways is the responsibility of the concerned State Government. The road between Kotdwar and Ramgarh is not a National Highway and thus comes under the purview of the State Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improvement of NH-7 between Hyderabad and Vijayawada

2712. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for expansion and improvement of National Highways-7 between Hyderabad and Vijayawada particularly between "Hayat Nagar and Chandarghat Bridge" in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) It is presumed that the Hon'ble MP wants to know the details about National Highway No. 9 (and not 7) between Hyderabad and Vijayawada. Out of the total length of 266 km of NH No. 9 between Hyderabad and Vijayawada, 10 km length from Hyderabad and 13 km length from Vijayawada side is already four- lane. This includes 4.60 km length between Chander Ghat bridge and Hayat Nagar out of total length of 13.60 km. The remaining length will be widened in stages based on traffic volume, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Road Fund for Development of Highways

2713. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact a separate legislation to create a dedicated road fund for the development of highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that response of the entrepreneurs to BOT projects is poor;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to grant liberal fiscal concessions for highways development?